

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/405,242

Applicant(s)

SILVESTER ET AL.

Examiner

Tony Mahmoudi

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 12-January-2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. The drawings filed on 24 September 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/17/2005.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12-January-2005 has been entered. In addition, the amendment filed on 12-January-2005 has been entered.

Remarks

2. In response to the amendment filed on 12-January-2005, claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-18, and 20-25 have been amended per applicant's request. Claims 1-25 are presently pending in the application, of which, claims 1, 9, 14 and 23 are in independent form.
3. In view of the examiner's amendment, authorized by the Attorney of Record, the abstract of the disclosure has been amended by the examiner (details provided below.)

Examiner's Amendment

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gregory A. Sebald (Attorney of Record) on 17-February-2005 (see enclosed Interview Summary, paper No. 20050217, for details.)

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended by the examiner as follows. This abstract will replace all prior versions in the Application:

REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT

A method for the separate authentication of a template and of data inserted therein. A template is provided with a template ID and a template Data Authentication Code (DAC(t)). User data is inserted in the template, and then extracted to be handled separately. A DAC(d) is generated on the user data by itself, and stored in an Approval Data packet with the template ID, DAC(t) and the user data. The complete document with the template and the user data can later be reconstructed. The method may be useful for many industries that rely on templates **[as a means]** for collecting data.

Allowance

5. Claims 1-25 are allowed over the prior art made of record.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The applicant's amendment, filed on 12-January-2005, overcomes the cited prior art with respect to the independent claims.

The prior art of record, Bjorn (U.S. Patent No. 6,035,398), Beatson et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,892,824), Weiss et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,071,190), Douglis et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,426), Squilla et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,898,779), Chang et al (U. S. Patent No. 6,105,012), and Buffam (U.S. Patent No. 6,185,316), do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

 said DAC(t) providing for the authentication of the document template by itself; and
 said DAC(d) providing for the authentication of the user data separately from the document template, as recited in claims 1 and 9.

Claims 2-8 are allowed over the prior art made of record because they are dependents from the allowed independent claim 1.

Claims 10-13 are allowed over the prior art made of record because they are dependents from the allowed independent claim 9.

The prior art of record, Bjorn (U.S. Patent No. 6,035,398), Beatson et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,892,824), Weiss et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,071,190), Douglis et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,426), Squilla et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,898,779), Chang et al (U. S. Patent No. 6,105,012), and Buffam (U.S. Patent No. 6,185,316), do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

 said DAC(t) providing for the authentication of the document template by itself;

 said DAC(c) providing for the authentication of said template with the user data inserted therein; and

 said DAC(d) providing for the authentication of the user data separately from the document template, as recited in claims 14 and 23.

Claims 15-22 are allowed over the prior art made of record because they are dependents from the allowed independent claim 14.

Claims 24-25 are allowed over the prior art made of record because they are dependents from the allowed independent claim 23.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Mahmoudi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 08:00 am to 04:30 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached at (571) 272-4083.

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February 22, 2005


CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER